

REMARKS

This is intended as a supplemental response to the Office Action dated January 16, 2004, to which a full and complete response was submitted on April 16, 2004. Following a discussion with the Examiner on June 9, 2004, a supplemental response faxed to the Examiner on June 8, 2004 is replaced by this response. Reconsideration of the objected to claims is requested for reasons presented below.

Claims 8-12 and 15-29 were pending in the application following entry of Applicants' prior response. Claims 8 and 25 stand objected to. Claims 8 and 25 have been amended in this substitute response.

The Examiner asserted in the telephonic conference with Applicants' representative conducted on June 9, 2004 that claims 8 and 25 remain objected to, but would be allowable if more clearly worded to recite Applicants' invention. Specifically, the Examiner stated that the claim limitation "said fluorine cleaning gas generated on-site in communication with the processing system" was unclear. The Examiner generally suggested minor modifications to this claim language. Pursuant thereto, Applicants have amended claims 8 and 25 to more clearly recite embodiments of the invention.

Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



Keith M. Tackett
Registration No. 32,008
MOSER, PATTERSON & SHERIDAN, L.L.P.
3040 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 1500
Houston, TX 77056
Telephone: (713) 623-4844
Facsimile: (713) 623-4846
Attorney for Applicants